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1. Soviet dentistry is most readily identified by the use of non-precious metals for fairly extensive restorations such as crowns and bridges. Gold is almost never available to the ordinary patient. Soviets tend to have their stainless steel appliances removed and gold ones fitted whenever they go to another country where gold is available. The Soviets use silver amalgam and silicate cements as is customary in the US. The quality of dental service, as seen in fillings and appliances, is not particularly high. Although the type of oral surgery I saw on Soviets who passed through Finland during World War II and after was "good", the restorative appliances do not match what I have seen in the US.

2. I believe the Soviets have borrowed a great deal from the German texts with which I am familiar. Many texts which are outmoded are still in use, but I have no idea as to the adequacy in number. Oral surgery in the USSR requires the medical degree as it does in Italy. There is a very high ratio of women who practice dentistry, but I believe their training is on a fairly low level.

3. One of the best oral surgery centers in the USSR is in Kharkov. Although it is military, I doubt that there is a well-organized dental corps in the military services as a whole. I have no information with which to differentiate Soviet claim and achievement in oral surgery. In my last conversation with a Soviet oral surgeon (May 1952), claims were made for advanced Soviet practices in oral surgery, but no evidence was advanced to show that these were not the usual Soviet claims of priority and achievement.

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